

Echoes of the Night is a Flandrau Science Center Production. It was developed in the 1980s and shown at the Flandrau Planetarium. The show is a collection of Native American night sky lore as told by Gerard Tsonakwa, an Abenaki Indian from the Northeastern United States. Slides were created from original artworks by Lerre Vance and Mark Basurto. The slides are one component of a multimedia production that included a soundtrack of music and special effects by local Tucson artist Soundings of the Planet.

This script for the Echoes of the Night multimedia production includes references to slides and special effects which were not available to digitize. Please contact Michael Magee, Planetarium Director, Flandrau Science Center & Planetarium, at mvm@email.arizona.edu for more information.

ECHOES OF THE NIGHT

Sky Legends with Tsonakwa

(A Flandrau Science Center production)

Come, sit by my fire in these, the
darkest hours of the night. And do not be
afraid. For this is no ordinary fire. (1:52)
The light of this fire is wisdom and lights
the mind of man and drives away the
darkness of night and ignorance so that we
need not be afraid. The warmth of this
fire is love that warms us against the cold
winds of winter and of loneliness and hate.
So that the heart of man will not sicken
and die, in this place, we are not alone.
There is darkness beyond the fire and the
darkness is filled, for there are the spirits
of the old people that lived on this land
and they would not go away. For in every
place they found great beauty and
happiness. They dwell yet, still and
quietly in this place, in the echoes of the
night. (2:54)

0:16 Begin Music
Sunset sequence
1:30 Dark night sky with stars

PAN (1) Forest scene
FX (1) Fire

(Campfire sounds and forest sounds)

X-Y-Zoom (1) Ghost

SL(1) Old Indian kodalith
SL(2) "
SL(3) "
SL(4) "
SL(5) "

X-Y-Zoom (2) Ghost

Fade all out.

FX (2)

SL(6) Title

SL(7) Tsonakwa credit

SL(8) Music credit

SL(9) Artist credit

FX (3) Rotating Galaxy (at 3:50)

FX(3) out.

PAN (2) Masks - 6 part

Fade all to darkness.

(Pause with music and credits)

(3:52) Science has much to say about the beginning of all things. How the universe came to be, what the stars are made of and the fate of all living beings.

(4:03) My people in this vast land also had their explanations, their conventions which worked for their way of life. Stories that spoke to the heart that taught us how we are part of all that we see. These are stories of the spirit and they still speak with great power today. (4:23)

MAHEO

FX (4a) Maheo Effect - HeNe laser
(optional)
FX (4b) Maheo - ball of light
(preferred)

(4:39) In the beginning, there was nothing, only terrible darkness and awesome silence. For age upon age, there was only nothing, only Maheo. (4:54) And Maheo was all things, and all things that could ever be. He was the universe. Beside him there was darkness, terrible darkness and silence, and if Maheo was silent, then the universe was silent. If Maheo was still, then the universe was still and nothing could move.

If Maheo listened, there was nothing to hear, and when he looked, there was nothing, nothing at all to see. All around Maheo was nothingness and silence for age upon terrible age. But Maheo was everything, and great and powerful. His being was all things in the universe, and he sensed this awesome darkness and this terrible silence beside him and in this he moved and he felt a stirring inside his being. This stirring was loneliness and Maheo thought to himself saying (6:16) "I have power, great power I have indeed, but power is nothing until it is used.

FX (4c) Switch on audio modulator

Power is nothing of itself, and I shall use my great power to fill this universe with sights and sounds so that I will not be alone. A universe I shall make." (6:42)

FX(4c) off.

And so Maheo reached out with his left hand, across all of space, and in his left hand he gathered all of space, both great and small, for the universe is infinitely small, as it is large too. And this he gathered into his left hand and then with his right hand Maheo reached out across all of time and gathered in all time past, all time yet still to come, and the ever-present now. With these in this hands, then did he bring his hands together in a mighty clap, greater than thunder. (7:23)

(Pause)

(Explosion)

FX (5a) Expanding ring

FX (5b) Strobe (single flash)

FX (5a) out.

FX (5c) Quasar

FX (5d) X-Ray Burst

FX (5c) out.

X-Fade to Stars.

(8:09) This clap was the first sound ever heard in the universe, and a fire there was in his hands, and then came all things and everything. Stars came flying out of his hands like sparks from crackling wood in a fire. Everywhere these sparks filled the universe. And these sparks, the lights in the sky, are stars. (8:40)
(Pause)

Stars fade off.

SPIDERWOMAN AND TAIOWA

PAN (3) Sky scene - 8 part

X-Y-Zoom (3) Taiowa (X-Fade to SL10)

SL(10) Taiowa

SL(11) Suktuknang
(or optional effect)

(8:56) The Hopi tell us Taiowa the sun god moved endlessly through the universe. When his work of creation was ready to begin, his nephew, (9:09) Suktuknang, he called across the heavens and said, "Now, we shall make the world, and it shall be filled with life. You shall make the earth to be the mother of all creation. I, the sun, will shine upon the earth and take away the darkness. I will be the light and the Father of all creation."
(9:30)

Fade all out.

PAN (4) Earth (stylized) (8-part)

SL(12) Topela mask

X-Fade

PAN (5) Earth w' water (8-part)

SL(13) Landscape

SL(14) Mountain

SL(15) Valley

SL(16) Water

Fade all out.

SL(17) Taiowa

SL(18) Suktuknang

Fade SL 17 & 18 out.

Then Taiowa gave direction to Suktuknang, directions by which to make the world. So it was (9:39) that the world was made by Suktuknang out of the Topela, that is endless space. He gathered everything into solid substance, some he made earth, some water. These, the earth and water, he divided into places from which life could spring; the mountains and the valleys and the waters were all where they should be. (10:05)

Then Suktuknang went to Taiowa and said, "I want you to see what I have done, and I have done well," and Taiowa looked and said, "It is very good, but you are not done with it. Now you must create life of all kinds and set it in motion according to my plan." (10:28)

SL(19) Spiderwoman
(or optional effect)

Now Suktuknang knew the universal plan, and went into the endless space and gathered substance to create his helper, the Spiderwoman (10:39). "Look all about you Spiderwoman," said Suktuknang. "Here now is endless space, but in the world there is no joyful movement. The world needs life. The Topela, endless space, needs men and women to live on the world and to contemplate the endless beauty of creation. You should make all life so that at the end of your work mankind shall be prepared for Taiowa coming.

Fade slide out.

SL(20) Spiderwoman

PAN (6) Earth w' trees (8 part)

SL(21) Rabbit

SL(22) Bird

SL(23) Squirrel

SL(24) Wolf

Spiderwoman wasted no time. She began right away with her work, taking substance from the earth. (11:15) She began by making grass and bushes and trees, the bearers of seeds and nuts and fruits she made to clothe the earth. (11:26) Likewise she made four-legged creatures, creatures with wings, creatures with furs, and set them before herself. (11:34) To the right and to the left-hand, she set them and said, "Now, go to the four corners of the world, go out in the four directions and fill this world with a joyful beauty and a great movement of life." And so it was done, that the world was prepared with life. Taiowa looked now at the earth all filled with life and said, "It is good, and now it is time to complete the plan." (12:01)

X-Fade all to stars.

Stars continue.

SL(25) Suktuknang

SL(26) Suktuknang

FX (6) Dawn of Man (swirling colors)

Fade out slides and effect.

SL(27) White silhouette

SL(28) Black silhouette

SL(29) Yellow silhouette

SL(30) Red silhouette

FX (7) All-sky Blue clouds

FX (8) All-sky Red clouds

SL(31) White people

SL(32) Black people

SL(33) Yellow people

SL(34) Red people

FX (7&8) out.

(12:07) Now in the darkness,

Suktuknang stood in the sky as the pattern
by which Spiderwoman could create man.

In that darkness before the dawn of
creation, Spiderwoman gathered clay of
each of the four (12:20) colors, red, white,
black, and yellow, and began molding from
each clay a man and a woman in the shape
of Suktuknang. While she worked,
Spiderwoman sang the creation song.

(12:40)

(12:53)

(12:55) These four men and four women
she made and covered them with her white
cape, the four races of mankind. At the
time of the dark (13:05) purple light of the
dawn, that first morning of creation,
Spiderwoman lifted her cape and bodies of
the human people were solidified. (13:15)

FX(9) All-sky Yellow clouds

Fade out slides and effect.

Sunrise (Instrument sun or effect).

At the time of the (13:18) yellow light of dawn, the human people awakened, but there was still dampness in the clay, in the top of their heads and a soft spot there. It was through that, the breath of life entered man in the second phase of his creation, yellow light of the created dawn. (13:40) Soon the sun appeared above the horizon curing the final dampness of the bodies and warming the human people with love and knowledge. (13:48)

FX(8) All-sky Red clouds

SL(35) Four races of people

X-Fade instrument sun to

SL(36) Taiowa

Fade off slides and effect.

Stars on.

(13:51) The people arose, man and a woman of each of the four sacred colors; red, white, black, and yellow. Finished and solid they stood and proudly faced the sun. "That is your creator," said Spiderwoman. "The Sun is your Father, and the creator of all things. You shall know to love him. You stand upon the earth who is your Mother, and the sustainer of all life, and you shall know to love her."

And so it was finished that way. (14:29)

Pause

Stars continue.

Leo (overlay or pointer).

Orion (overlay or pointer).

Bootes (overlay or pointer).

Constellations off.

Stars fade off.

(14:44) On a clear and moonless night, the sky looks like beautiful patterns of beadwork. Many patterns are known to peoples all over the world. If it is spring, you can see Leo in the southeast. (15:24) [pause] Some tribes saw the mountain lion Maymaguashi. (15:32) [pause] Setting towards the west is Orion. (15:37) [pause]. Many saw him as a great warrior or chieftan. [pause] In the east, Bootes is now rising. (15:51) The Greeks called him the herdsman. (15:57) [pause] To the Hopi, he was Suktuknang. (16:00) [pause] These are beautiful patterns, but parts of the sky are a mess and no patterns like beadwork can be found. There is a story to explain even this. (16:21)

Stars off.

COYOTE

(Animal Sounds)

PAN (7) Father/Coyote Prairie (5 part)

(16:34) On that first morning of creation so long ago, men and animals were different. For they all spoke the same language and they knew each other's hearts and minds. There was great understanding and peace and sharing and love. (16:51) And they looked out at this creation, and they remarked to one another saying, "Ah, what great beauty there is in this world, so filled with beauty is this creation world that there is not a shadow in any place, but a great rainbow of color stretches everywhere." (17:10)

And so it was, and in that amazing beauty in that clean, fresh new world of creation, they came to know some of the things of the creator who made it and his mysteries. (17:29)

Fade down PAN (7) slowly to very dim.

X-Fade middle pan slide.

PAN (7c2) Eyes (Flash to blink eyes)

Continue to blink eyes.

Stop blinking eyes.

Fade out PAN (7) (no advance) except-

Fade out PAN (7c2) (advance)

But when the darkness began to fall
that first evening of creation so long ago,
all men and animals grew hushed upon the
earth to look into the nighttime sky to see
what wonders in there would lie. But
when darkness finally came that first night
of creation so long ago, there was nothing
to be seen, for the sky was black and
empty as death.

And the men and the animals looking
there were surprised and called to one
another in the darkness of that place, "Oh,
this world is all filled with beauty. The day
world is so filled with beauty that there is
no shadow in any place. But there, now
look, the nighttime sky is black and empty
as death. The creation is unfinished."
(18:29)

SL(37) Father in sky

And our mighty Father heard these words from where he sits beyond the sky and he considered them taking them to heart and he thought, saying to himself, "Oh, it is true what they say. The creation is unfinished indeed. But I shall put something there in the sky, something so fine and so filled with beauty that when they see this thing, they will come to know something of me." (19:00)

X-Fade

SL(38) Father pointing

SL(39) Beads pattern

Fade out slides.

PAN (7) Father/Coyote Prairie (repeat)

PAN (7c3) Father standing with stick

And so the mighty Father thought through that night of creation so long ago of all wonders and beautiful things to put there in the sky. And he finally decided to fill it with bright shiny points of light, the stars, in a perfect and beautiful pattern just like beads.

(19:26) And so, by the dawn of that second early morning of creation so long ago, our mighty Father returned to the earth to finish his creation work and he walked out onto the prairie with a(19:38) great, great bag and he began to gather and look for the little flowers (19:42) that we call prairie stars. Many flowers did he pick and filled this great bag (19:49) with these.

Continue PAN (7)

X-Fade

PAN (7c4) Father sitting with stick

X-Fade

PAN (7c5) Father looking at mountain

X-Fade

PAN (7c6) Father on mountain

Heavy was the burden and full the bag was with stars. And these he would place in the sky just so, in a beautiful fine pattern just like woven beads. And then he looked about and he saw and cut a long stick. (20:06) This he would use. He would place each star on the end and put them in the sky just so and perfectly like beads. And then he sought out the highest place (20:17) on the land. A great mountain did he find and from the top of this, he could place the stars in the sky up high out of reach, and so they would last until the end of creation time. (20:30)

Now when our great Father had finished all this work and climbed that mountain, still it was daylight and he was tired from (20:40) his labor. And so he decided to rest himself a while and wait for the nighttime sky so more perfect to put up his stars in a perfect pattern like beads. (20:54)

X-Fade

PAN (7c7) Father lying down

(Coyote sniffing sounds)

PAN (7c8) Coyote enters

And he set down that great bag upon the ground and in the shade of a great tree that grew in that place, he laid himself upon the earth and it wasn't long before he was sound asleep.

(21:11) And then one came along, the one we call Coyote. Now Coyote is a dog and like all dogs, always he is thinking of things to eat, always he is seeking food. The only thing in his heart and mind is good things to eat.

And he comes across this place where sleeps the Creator and he is surprised, saying to himself, (21:31) "Oh, there is the Creator and he is sound asleep, and next to him is a great (21:40) bag filled with something. I bet there are good things to eat. Now I know the great Father has given us all enough to eat, but I bet that he has saved the best things for himself. I am going to take that bag and look inside and see, and if there are good things to eat in there, I will eat some and then I will put it back before he awakens, and he will never know it was me." (22:06)

X-Fade
PAN (7c9) Coyote takes bag

FX (10) Spilling stars

X-Fade FX(10) to stars.

And so Coyote crawls very careful and silent right up next to the Creator, and he takes that (22:15) great bag in his teeth and he runs off to find a safe place to hide and look inside, but as he runs he trips (22:21) and falls and that bag tears open in his teeth and the stars spill out and splash all across the sky. A great mess indeed.

X-Fade

PAN (7c10) Father awakens

(22:45) And just then our mighty

Father awakens from his sleep and the first thing he sees upon opening his eyes are his beautiful stars scattered all across the skies and no fine pattern at all like beads. And he looks down and he sees Coyote

standing there with that bag in his teeth and he knows Coyote's heart and he says

to Coyote, scolding, "Coyote, look what

you have done. For I wished to put those stars in the sky in a perfect pattern just like

beads so that when men and animals

looked there to see, such beauty there

would be, that they would come to know

something of me. And look at the mess

you have made. What will they think?"

X-Fade

PAN (7c11) Father scolds Coyote

X-Fade

PAN (7c12) Coyote howls

Fade out PAN(7)

(More coyote howls)

(23:36) And Coyote looked up, and
shame filled his heart as tears filled his
eyes and Coyote began to cry. (23:45)
(Coyote howls)

(24:00) And so it is, when we look up
at the nighttime sky, we see the great mess
that Coyote has made, for the stars are
scattered all about every which way. And
when the darkness comes to the land, the
Coyote's great grandchildren of that first
coyote of long ago, look up at the sky and
see the mess that he has made and feel
ashamed. And so it is, that the coyotes cry
in the night. (24:33)

[Pause]

Position stars to see Pleiades.

PAN (8) Reeds and grasses (4 part)
FX (11) Sweat lodge door
(Superimposes lodge in pan)

Fade out **PAN**(8) (no advance)
Fade out **FX**(11)

SL(40) Standing Indian

Fade out slide.

SEVEN SISTERS-HURON

(24:44) If you look into this part of the sky you will see 6 stars but if you have very good eyes, you may see 7. (25:08) A young man was out fasting. His fasting lodge stood at the end of a lake, where no one ever came. There was a broad beach on both sides. (25:17)

(25:19) One evening he heard something. Sounds of songs, faint and distant, came to his ear. He did not know what it was. He looked everywhere.

(25:28) There was no one to be seen.

Then the sounds were clearer. They came from the sky over the lake. The young man listened; he thought the voices came from the beach near by. (25:42)

He crept slowly down to the lake, through the reeds and grasses. The singing grew more distant. (25:52)



PAN (8) Reeds and grasses (repeat)
PAN (8c2) Indian looking

SL(41) Seven women dancing
 (Superimposes pan)

Fade out **SL**(41)
X-Y-Zoom (4) Basket
 (towards Pleiades)

Fade out zoom.

FX (11) Sweat lodge door (repeat)

X-Y-Zoom (4) Basket
 (down to ground)

Fade out zoom.
 Fade out **PAN**(8) (no advance).
 Fade out **FX**(11).

SL(42) Maidens dancing

(25:53) Then through the reeds, he
 saw seven young women, dancing about in
 the light of the stars.

(26:00) A pebble slipped under his
 foot and the women sprang into a large
 basket (26:05), and vanished into the sky.
 (26:06)

Now the young man went back to his
 fasting lodge. The next evening he
 listened. The air was very still. The water
 was very quiet. The stars were shining.
 He heard again the sound of faraway
 voices. He heard distant songs. So he
 crept to the edge of the lake, through the
 reeds and grasses. (26:30) He saw the
 great basket come down with the seven
 maidens. (26:34) They danced together,
 under the light of the stars. Then they
 danced (26:38) alone, each dancing in
 turn. (26:41)

Fade out slide.

X-Y-Zoom (4) Basket
(towards Pleiades)

Fade out zoom.

SL(43) Man chasing woman

X-Fade

SL(44) Man hanging on basket

X-Fade

SL(45) All fall down

One maiden was more beautiful than her sisters. Then the young man forgot; he made a sound with his voice and the maidens vanished into the sky. (26:53)

Now every evening the maidens came down to dance on the beach. It was a broad beach. No one ever came to that end of the lake. They danced under the stars, when the air was still, and they sang their songs. And the young man watched them. (27:10)

One evening after watching for some time, the young man rushed among the women and siezed the most beautiful sister. The other maidens sprang into the basket, and the young man caught the basket edge with one hand. (27:27) They all fell to the earth together, and the maidens were frightened.

X-Fade
SL(46) Beautiful woman

One said, "We are seven sisters. We live in the Sky Land. Often you see us when you look into the sky. But at this season, when the air is still and the lake is quiet, we come here to dance in the starlight." The young man was so taken with the young woman's beauty that he insisted she married him. (27:51) "I cannot marry you until you come and live with me in the Sky Land," was the reply.

Fade out slide.

PAN (8) Reeds and grasses (repeat)
X-Y-Zoom (5) Man and woman
(towards Pleiades)

(28:00) So the young man went into the Sky Land with her. We know this is true, because even today the seven sisters are in the sky. Six are clearly seen, but the seventh sits back in the shadow with her husband. (28:18)

Fade out PAN and Zoom.

Continue Stars.

KULOSCAP & THE LITTLE GHOST

(28:27) There are more than stars to look at in the night. My people believe in spirits and ghosts that roam the darkness. These stories also tell of a great hero and how he dealt with these night beings.

(28:41)

When I was little, my family and my father used to get together at night and tell stories about Kuloscaph. And he used to tell stories about Kuloscaph and the ghosts. And these were among my favorites.

PAN (9) Kuloscaph in forest
FX (12) Fire

(29:00) Now on this night long ago Kuloscaph and his friend Pugunuk, the otter, were sitting by their fire.

(29:09) A small fire it was so they could look up to the night-time sky and just muse upon the stars. And then all of a sudden, a stillness came to the forest.

(29:19) Strange it was and they knew that all in the forest were shivering and shaking with fright.

And there were sounds coming out of the forest; strange sounds indeed. This would be a strange night. All of a sudden a blue

(29:40) ghost came streaking out of the forest, his hair snapping in the wind.

Kuloscap looked and laughed. And Pugunuk, he was afraid and he hid behind Kuloscap.

X-Y-Zoom (6) Blue Ghost
(up out of fire)

Fade out zoom.

X-Fade

PAN (9b2) Otter behind Kuloscap

X-Y-Zoom (7) Red Ghost
(up out of fire)

Fade out zoom.

X-Fade
PAN (9b3) Otter in bushes

X-Y-Zoom (8) White Ghost
(up out of fire)

Fade out zoom.

X-Fade
PAN (9b4) Ghost teeth on ground

SL(47) Ghost
SL(48) Ghost
SL(49) Ghost

SL(50) Ghost (flash 47&50)
SL(51) Ghost (flash 48&51)
SL(52) Ghost (flash 49&52)

X-Fade
PAN (9b5) Kuloscaph smiling

Fade out flashing ghosts slides.

And then a (29:57) great red ghost jumped out of the ground right in front of them and he flailed his arms in the air and Pugunuk had enough of this and he hid in the bushes behind Kuloscaph. He just laughed and treated him with disdain. Then a (30:17) white ghost came out of the bushes and terrible was he and he spat his teeth out on the ground at Kuloscaph's feet. Kuloscaph laughed and Otter swooned with fright. (30:32) And one after another, these ghosts came forward; green ones, white ones, horrible ones and ugly ones.

(30:40) They grimaced their faces and made strange sounds indeed and Kuloscaph laughed. He enjoyed this and called out in the darkness of that place. (30:54) "This is entertainment indeed."

X-Y-Zoom (9) Little Ghost
(just above fire)

Slow X-Y motions.

And the ghosts gave up in despair.
But there was one little (31:02) tiny ghost
and he was kind of a pest to the other
ghosts for he was a young ghost, and not
very big indeed. And not much did he
ever do. He had not even earned one
feather in his life so far. And the ghosts
didn't like this little ghost so they decided
they would put him up to facing Kuloscaph
and bring him to shame. (31:29) They
grabbed the little ghost and pushed him
forward and prodded and said "Now you go
scare Kuloscaph."

Slow X-Y motion

The little ghost, so shy indeed, crept forward, hesitating. He came into the presence of our great Kuloscaph at last. Kuloscaph saw this poor little ghost. (31:49) And he was a great man Kuloscaph. Great compassion did he have in his heart; great care indeed. He felt sorry and took pity on this poor little tiny ghost. He could see that the ghost was frightened and shy indeed. And so Kuloscaph in his compassion decided that he would act afraid and make this little ghost feel big. And so Kuloscaph jumped up from his fire and (32:17) he let out a yell and he ran and (32:22) hid in the bushes with Otter, where he lay, passed out from fear. And Kuloscaph shook the bushes to show that he was so afraid. (32:31)

X-Fade

PAN (9b6) Kuloscaph jumps

X-Fade

PAN (9b7) Kuloscaph in bushes

Zoom up little ghost.

Superimpose
PAN (9b8) Kuloscaph's stuff

X-Y Zoom little ghost small and up.
Fade out zoom.
Fade out **PAN** (9b8).
Maintain **PAN** (9b7).

X-Fade
PAN (9b9) Kuloscaph pondering

Fade all out to stars.
Projector at about 9Hrs.

The little ghost, upon seeing this took great heart indeed and swelled up his chest and said "I must be a great ghost after all." (32:42) And he walked around the fire of that place and he picked up Kuloscaph's (32:52) feathers and his (32:53) pipe bag and his great pipe (32:55) that he loved so much indeed and he carried these off as trophies. He went back boasting to all the other ghosts, the red ghosts (33:04), the blue ghosts (33:05), the black ghosts and the one who spit his teeth upon (33:09) the ground, and the one who flew with his hair snapping in the wind and the ones who made terrible sounds, and amazed they were indeed.

When Kuloscaph looked and saw these things; his pipe, his bag and his feathers were gone, and he sat and pondered these things and decided that after all, sometimes it might not be such a good thing to make big things of little things. (33:40)

THE GREAT BEAR

Point to Big Dipper or use
Big Dipper overlay.

(33:51) If you look there in the sky
in this place, you will see a constellation
that is called the Big Dipper. [pause]

Ursa Major constellation overlay

(33:55) But when my people look there,
we see something altogether different
indeed. Here we see a great bear, and
behind the great bear are three smaller
stars. [pause] These are three Cree
hunters. The Cree is a tribe that shared our
forest long ago.(34:28)

Point to handle stars.

Point to middle star of handle.

And here by this middle star is a
little dim star, this is their dog, Bright
Teeth. (34:37) And my father told me why
these stars move endlessly about the sky
through the four seasons of the year and
for the rest of time. (34:50) For these
three Crees and their dog must chase the
bear and never reach him. And it is a thing
my father told me happened before his
father's time long ago when my great,
great grand uncle Bedagie (35:04) was
alive. He was a great medicine man of my
people, back in those days when our
medicine was still strong, and powerful in
the sacred web of life. (35:17)

And my father tells me that the bear is the brother of all Abenaki and so we do not hunt him. (35:25)

SL(53) Three Cree

These three Crees and their dog had hunted a full (35:30) season in our Mistassini and Laurentide forest, and at the end of the season were tired and in sore need of human companionship. (35:39)

SL(54) Village

And they came to one of our villages (35:41) where stayed Bedugie in those days. And, because our people saw they were tired and alone, they offered hospitality and took them in. (35:52) A great feast there was, of moose and deer, and turkey and goose. And they sang the songs of the people long into the night, told stories of Spirits, feasting and dancing. (36:02) Then when all were tired, these three Crees and their dog were led to a small house at the edge of the village, there to find their sleep. (36:14)

My father tells me that these three Crees, they didn't go right to sleep. They laid awake thinking and still hungry, for though they ate the meat of the moose and the deer, and the turkey and the goose, it is bear that these Crees like to eat. For they are not brothers to the bear, and this is what they want. And they are not satisfied.

SL(55) Hills with trees

(36:41) And so in those darkest hours of the night when the village at last was silent, and all were asleep but these Crees, they crept out of that house and went off into the hills at the edge of the village, and there they sought out the den where sleeps (36:55) our brother the bear.

X-Fade
SL(56) Indian with torch

X-Fade
SL(57) Bear Den

X-Fade
SL(58) Indian chasing

X-Fade
SL(59) Bear looking

And the oldest Cree hunter (37:02)
took a lighted torch and went inside the
den of the bear and aroused him from his
sleep chasing him out into the open,
frightened, snarling, and growling.
[growls] And they chased (37:15) the bear
into the north, he ran, and they followed,
and the bear turned and ran to the south
growling and snarling, and they followed.

X-Fade
SL(60) Bear and Bright Teeth

X-Fade
SL(61) Bear running
SL(62) Indian and dog
(superimpose over **SL(61)**)

But the snarls and growls awakened
Bedugie, and he had great concern in his
heart to see what was happening to our
good brother the bear. And he looked in
time to see a young Cree hunter loose
(37:36) an arrow and wound our brother
the bear so that he began to bleed. And
their dog, Bright Teeth (37:43), snapping
at the bear's heels as he ran so that he
could not find rest, and (37:47) Bedugie
was afraid for the bear and worried for his
brother, so that he made a medicine,
powerful medicine indeed. It lifted the
bear off the ground, and the bear ran off
into the sky far above. There he dripped
blood down on the leaves of the maple and
the sumac and so these trees turn red in my
country still today in the fall. So strong
was the medicine that these three Crees
and their dog, without knowing, ran off the

Fade out slides.

X-Y-Zoom (10) Earth
(dezooms from large to small)

(38:20) ground too into the sky chasing
after the bear with their greed until they
looked (38:26) down and saw the earth far
below and they shouted to one another
saying, "Enough of this, we must go back.
Look, we have left the earth behind."
(38:38)

Fade out zoom.

But Bedugies medicine was too strong
and they could not return to the earth, and
so my father tells me these three Crees and
their dog will chase our brother, the bear
throughout all eternity there in the sky.
And though they are very, very hungry
indeed, they will never reach him until the
last night of creation time. (39:03) And I
know that this story is true because my
father, Old Bear Grinning, told me.
(39:14) [pause]

PAN (10) Forest scene
FX (1) Fire

Stars continue.

Fade out Pan and FX.

PAN (11) Old Indians (5 part)
(Black and white)
(Fade up one slide every four seconds)

(39:25) And so now, for a few short minutes in this place, we have shared together my life, and the life of all the old people of my nation and tribes across America. We have sat by the firesides of the old people, the ones that have risen now and gone along the shining way.

(39:51) And when I stand in this place and look up and see stars across the sky like grains of sand, like the pine needles of my forest floor, I think then of how it once was with my people, that they covered this land like the grass covers the prairie.

(40:14) Like the windswept waves cover the shell-paved ocean floor, my people once covered this land. But now they have gone out, but their spirits they have left behind. For in every place, we have found great beauty and happiness. In every place that my people have left their names, the spirits still there reside.

SL(63) Old Indian picture

SL(64) Old Indian picture

SL(65) Old Indian picture

Fade out PAN and slides.

FX (13) Bolide meteor

(41:00) And though the old ones have gone on the shining way, their spirits stay nearby. There, the lights in the sky you call stars, are the fires of life kindled in the souls of all the old people that have lived and gone on, and they stay there nearby, for they love us so and they love the earth that they could not leave us behind, but they wait and they watch.

(41:43) And if you look there at the stars in that endless nighttime sky, and all you can hear is the awful silence of the ages yet to come, I hear every song sung by my people since the beginning of time, and my heart is happy for I know that one (42:11) day I will go there too, and sit by the fires of the people and sing the old songs again.

And if you look there and see this
brilliant and endless sky, you must come
to know there is no death but only a
change of worlds, and that I, Tsonakwa,
wish you a safe journey in that awesome
crossing.

FX (2) Blue spiral all-sky
SL(66) Flandrau credit

-END-